

for Afghans who risked their lives to help American forces. While they wait, the Taliban are hunting them down. Dozens have already been killed while bureaucrats dither.

We cannot abandon our Afghan allies to die. We must get them to Guam.

ADDRESSING CLIMATE CHANGE AND CLEAN ENERGY

(Mr. TONKO asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. TONKO. Mr. Speaker, we cannot unravel infrastructure from climate. As we consider bold new investments in America's infrastructure, our choices will shape our climate future for better or worse.

Failing to address climate pollution and clean energy in our infrastructure work will force future generations of Americans to cover a blank check. And we are already passing on grave and growing costs for our past failures to act.

But let me put this another way: seizing opportunities to tackle climate change in our infrastructure work will help us build legislation that makes America cleaner, safer, and more competitive as a Nation. It will save countless lives and create millions of good American jobs.

If we make climate a priority, our workers will miss fewer days on the job, and our kids will miss fewer days at school. Our local budgets will suffer less strain. Our infrastructure dollars will go farther. The things we build will last longer.

Climate is a growing threat that demands urgent, bold action. And doing nothing about it is doing something, it is condemning the United States to become a weaker, sicker, and poorer Nation. This is our path to choose. Do we allow America to further decline or choose a more sustainable, prosperous, and just future? To me, the decision is clear: Let's move forward.

CRISIS AT THE BORDER

(Ms. HERRELL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. HERRELL. Mr. Speaker, this week I received a letter and these photos, in fact, more photos than just this, from a constituent. The photos were taken on his ranch at 5 a.m. earlier this week from a game camera about 15 miles north of the border.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD a letter from Russell Johnson dated June 13, 2021, and I would like to read a few excerpts from the letter.

"When President Biden signed the proclamation ending border wall construction, we saw a dramatic increase in illegal foot traffic through our ranch."

I can no longer allow my children to play outside unless an adult is with them to mon-

itor the areas around them. People who have dropped out of groups crossing have stopped at my house wanting to use the phone, WiFi, and call their smuggler. This is very concerning, as often my wife is at home alone with our children, and I am hours away working on the ranch. These people are desperate. And it is only a matter of time before someone gets hurt.

Now, Mr. Speaker, the border in New Mexico is not like the other borders in cities around El Paso or the ports of entry, here there is a huge difference.

JUNE 13, 2021.

REPRESENTATIVE HERRELL. My name is Russell Johnson. I am a fourth-generation cattle rancher in southern Luna County. I ranch along side my wife, two children, my father, and my mother. Our ranch borders the international boundary with Mexico for a little over 8 miles. My family has ranches on this same piece of land since 1918. What we are experiencing on the border today is not only a risk to my family, but our state and this nation.

When President Biden signed the proclamation ending border wall construction, we saw a dramatic increase in illegal foot traffic through our ranch. There now exists a gap in the wall that separates the United States from Mexico on our ranch. It is approximately 3/4-mile wide along with a border monument access gate that was not installed leaving a gap about 12 feet wide. Not only did President Biden's proclamation end the construction of the physical barrier, but it also stopped all other infrastructure and technology that was to go with it. Improved access roads for Border Patrol, lighting, sensor technology and camera systems were all part of the project that was abruptly ended. The situation at the border has progressively worsened because of this decision. Talking with local Border Patrol Agents, group size in our area has gone from four to six people in a group, to now being upwards of twenty. This is all crossing and passing through not only my property, but our homes and business.

I can no longer allow my children to play outside unless an adult is with them to monitor the areas around them. People who have dropped out of groups crossing have stopped at my house wanting to use the phone or have access to my Wi-Fi to call their smuggler. This is very concerning as often my wife is at home alone with our children and I am hours away working on the ranch. These people are desperate. It's only a matter of time before our home is broken into.

The increase in traffic is also affecting our business. Much of southern New Mexico is suffering a D4 drought. We are having to supplement our cattle to get to the monsoon season. This hardship is being compounded by the people crossing the border illegally. Currently, we have decent natural grasses in the pasture bordering Mexico. Our cattle are not utilizing this rangeland properly because they are constantly getting spooked by the people crossing. This is pushing them into drier areas with not enough suitable feed for them to consume. The cattle are also susceptible to contracting stress induced illnesses like Pasteurella Pneumonia from constantly being run off. We have experienced this before under similar border conditions. If not treated quickly, cattle can die within 48 hours. We are experiencing this not only on parts of the ranch that border Mexico, but further north as well.

Our day-to-day operations have been negatively impacted. We now try to work in pairs at a minimum. With no cellphone service in our area, it is safer to work with someone with you, so you have somebody to watch your back. This slows our work progress

down and increases the length of time it takes to get tasks down.

On June 4, 2021, my father and I encountered four groups of illegal immigrants on our ranch totaling well over 30 individuals. Border Patrol was able to apprehend all four groups, but they told me something that I found very troubling. They said that there were only eight agents in the field that evening. Deming Border Patrol Station is responsible for the area we live in. The station's area of responsibility includes well over 60 miles of border. Eight agents were expected to cover all of that during their shift. This does not make for a very secure border. Encountering groups crossing and a lack of manpower in the field is becoming the norm. The Patrol Agent in Charge at the Deming Border Patrol Station told us that they are averaging 650 apprehensions a week. These are apprehensions, they do not include the people that are successfully making their illegal entry.

It is important to note that we do not have unaccompanied minors or family groups crossing through our area. They are all young, adult males in good physical shape. All the people I have encountered are wearing full camouflage, to include face coverings and carpet or sponge booties on their feet. These people are not turning themselves in, they do not want to be caught.

Unfortunately, this is not the first time we have experienced issues regarding the border. What differs this time from others is that our government is not trying to do anything to resolve the issue. I feel like as a citizen of this country, I do not matter in the eyes of our government. The State of Texas has declared a state of emergency in many if not all its counties that border Mexico. Texas is doing this because the Federal Government is not addressing the issue. Enough pressure will be put on the Texas border that New Mexico will see an even larger increase in illegal traffic as it will be pushed west. This bothers me greatly.

I am writing you today to make you aware of the situation on the border in our area and to ask for help. Border Patrol manpower is strained, and our local law enforcement is stretched thin. Ideally, the border wall and all infrastructure and technology need completed. In the meantime, we desperately need more boots on the ground to help with this surge in illegal traffic. We also need better cellphone coverage in these remote areas. Not being able to call for law enforcement or emergency service is a huge safety concern. Last, but certainly not least, we need help getting this administration to address the border crisis. Thank you for your attention to these matters.

Respectfully,

RUSSELL JOHNSON.

HONORING WILLIAM ALLEN PULLUM

(Mr. GAETZ asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GAETZ. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor the life of William Allen Pullum.

Navarre is a community in my district in Florida that is one of the fastest growing. It is vibrant, full of warfighters, workers, and lovely people. Bill Pullum is the father of Navarre.

He was born in 1947 and lived most of his life in this community. He joined the Army in 1967 as an Army helicopter